



Photo Staff Sgt. Tia Schroeder

Members of the 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron load mobility bags onto a vehicle to be transported to a passenger aircraft during the aggregation phase here Jan. 4. The aggregation is an experimental mobility concept set up by U.S. Central Command Air Forces to establish a centralized point to lower costs and provide better support for deploying Airmen during Air Expeditionary Forces 3 and 4.

509th BW helps 400 Airmen deploy

New mobility concept tested at Whiteman

By 1st Lt. Ed Gulick

Public Affairs

The third passenger aircraft in two weeks departed here Thursday after a small group of Whiteman members worked through the holidays to plan for the deployment of more than 400 Airmen under a new mobility concept developed by U.S. Central Command Air Forces.

This was the first time deploying Airmen from several bases met here to catch contract airlift to an intermediate point where intra-theater airlift would take members to various final locations.

After arriving at Whiteman, the Airmen

spent time at the deployment center watching big-screen TVs, talking on telephones and playing various board games while waiting for their flight.

Col. Chris Miller, 509th Bomb Wing commander, and other base leaders walked among the deploying Air Force members making small talk and wishing them a safe trip.

"The idea of using continental U.S. bases as aggregation launch pads was both to avoid choke points at civilian airports and to better track deploying Airmen in order to improve intra-theater transportation," Colonel Miller said.

Capt. Robert Austin, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron Deployment Readiness Flight commander, received an e-mail from CENTAF in November designating Whiteman as a rally point for Airmen deploying to Southwest Asia in early Jan-

uary. His flight began working every detail to get the deploying Airmen here and then send them on their way to forward locations.

To get here, they came by commercial airline, chartered bus and plane, and by private vehicles. Most came in groups, but some came individually, Captain Austin said. "Each group's itinerary had to be coordinated and timed so base support could be ready when they arrived," he said.

Some, like Master Sgt. Bill McKeon from Ellsworth Air Force Base, S.D., left with a group on a government-chartered plane that took off from Ellsworth at 4 a.m. local time Jan. 4 and landed here at 7 a.m. local time. Upon arrival, his group was taken to an off-base hotel where they were given a room until 5 p.m. Sergeant McKeon said he took a nap and then went

to a restaurant near his hotel for a late lunch before meeting the bus back to Whiteman.

Chaplain (Capt.) Matthew Franke from F.E. Warren AFB, Wyo., drove to Denver Jan. 3 with his family to take a commercial flight to Kansas City International Airport. Once there, he boarded a government bus to Whiteman.

When Chaplain Franke arrived here, the bus took him straight to the deployment center where he unloaded his bags. He signed for his room, and was handed a base lodging map and room key so that when the bus pulled up at lodging, he was able to go straight to his room.

The next day his group met at the deployment center to turn in weapons at

See AGGREGATION, Pages 10-11

News in Brief

Flu shots available ... and mandatory

The flu vaccine is now available at the immunizations clinic and is mandatory for active duty Whiteman members. For more details, call the clinic at 687-4304. Walk-ins are available.

Speaker offers promotion details

Col. R.J. Rouse, Air Force Personnel Center selection board secretariat chief is scheduled to offer briefings on the

Air Force promotion process at the 509th Mission Support Group's Officer Professional Development seminar. A briefing for senior NCOs begins at 8:30 a.m., followed by a presentation for officers at 10:30 a.m. Jan. 21 at the community center. For more details, call 1st Lt. Kelli Green at 687-5171.

Blood drive set

An American Red Cross blood drive takes place 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Thursday and Jan. 21 at the community center. The event is sponsored by the Whiteman Officers'

Spouses' Club. Donors get a T-shirt and a free pizza certificate. Donors are encouraged to schedule a Fast Pass Appointment at <http://www.givelife.org>. For more details, e-mail Michelle Hunt at kevinandmichelle@charter.net.

509th CPTS schedules temporary closing

The 509th Comptroller Squadron closes at 2:45 p.m. Jan. 21 for an office function. The 509th CPTS will re-open for regular business at 8:30 a.m. Jan. 24. For emergencies, call 660-525-4283.

Commander's Corner

By Col. Chris Miller

509th Bomb Wing Commander

TAX TIME. No sooner do we say "Happy New Year" than we have to start thinking about filing our tax paperwork. Airmen can access their W-2 income statement via the Internet at the myPay Web site, beginning today.

Something else you should know: Whiteman's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance office is there to help! Where most Americans have to pay to prepare their taxes, the Air Force family has volunteers each year who step up to training and provide a great service. Our tax assistance office will open in two weeks, and it's free — all you have to do is ask! To all our volunteers and the offices that allow them the time to provide this assistance...thanks!

ICE ISN'T NICE ... ! We've already had our share of ice and snow this year,

and our only day with ice on the ground produced lots of bent sheet metal. Just walking to your car can be a hazardous mission this time of year. We can't just hibernate and wait for spring, but slowing down, braking early and picking your footing carefully — will help make sure you, or your car, don't get painful damage. Be careful, particularly this long weekend!

"WE HAVE A DREAM!" Monday we celebrate the vision and work of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. His dream was of his children, and all children, being judged by the "content of their character," not the "color of their skin." Those of us who wear Air Force blue can take quiet satisfaction in having helped break down those racial, religious and gender barriers in our country and in our Air Force.

Take a moment on Dr. King's day to reflect on the sacrifices of many who plowed the road to respect for one another

... and keep making his dream — and our dream — a reality with every conversation and every day.

HITTING THE REAL TARGET. We live in unique times. Only a few months ago, free elections were held in Afghanistan for the first time. Iraq is also headed for an election at the end of this month, despite the continuing efforts of terrorists to disrupt the process. When you think about it, the people of Whiteman are an integral part of these history-making events.

Too often here in central Missouri it's easy to focus on the mechanics: flying and fixing airplanes, deploying and returning, and we forget what it's all for. Whether you're an Airman, a spouse, son or daughter, as you watch the news, remember: you're helping to make it. Every day. That's our privilege, and sometimes our burden, as we serve. I'm proud of you.



Photo by Melissa Klinkner

A street plow patrols Whiteman's roads to remove snow earlier this winter. Wing members are reminded to exercise safety during winter conditions. Wing members should be wary of slippery surfaces and black ice.

60 years later, the spirit lives on

By Lt. Col. Thomas Bussiere

325th Bomb Squadron Commander

Recently, more than 100 members of the famed World War II 92nd Bomb Group, which comprised the 325th, 326th, 327th, and 407th Bombardment Squadrons, held their annual reunion in Kansas City, Mo. They also visited Whiteman for a B-2 tour and received a wing mission briefing by Col. Chris Miller, 509th Bomb Wing commander.

My wife, Barb, and I attended the reunion banquet and presented them a B-2 mission brief. We had the privilege of spending the evening with some true American heroes and I would like to share their story with you.

The 92nd was activated in March 1942 at Barksdale Field, Fla., and by August of that year it moved to Bovington, England, to fight the German war machine.

The 92nd has several claims to fame, including being the oldest group in 8th Air Force, the first group to make a non-stop Atlantic flight to England, and the distinction of leading 8th Air Force's last mission during World War II. During the war, the 92nd BG flew 308 missions, 8,633 combat sorties, dropped 20,829 tons of munitions and lost 154 aircraft to enemy action.

During the reunion, Eugene Ponte, a World War II B-17 waist gunner, recalled a special mission he

flew on July 28, 1943. The crew that fateful day comprised of the pilot 1st Lt. Robert Campbell; co-pilot 2nd Lt. John Morgan; navigator 2nd Lt. Keith Koske; bombardier 2nd Lt. Asa Irwin and crew members; Staff Sgts. Tyre Weaver and John Foley, Tech. Sgt. John McClure, and Sgts. James Ford, and Reece Walton.

The crew's B-17 was attacked by a large force of enemy fighters before it could reach the German coast. During the attack, the oxygen system to the tail, waist and radio gun positions was knocked out. A .303 caliber shell came through the aircraft windshield, totally shattering it. The pilot's skull was split open, leaving him in a dazed condition. Lieutenant Campbell fell over the controls, tightly clamping his arms around them.

Co-pilot Lieutenant Morgan grasped the B-17 controls from his side and, by sheer strength, pulled the airplane back into formation despite the frantic struggles of the semiconscious pilot. The aircraft interphone had also been destroyed, making it impossible for Lieutenant Morgan to call the crew for help.

At this same time, the top turret gunner, Sergeant Weaver, fell down through the hatch with his arm shot off at the shoulder and a gaping wound in his side. The waist, tail and radio gunners had lost consciousness from lack of oxygen and, hearing no fire from their guns, Lieutenant Mor-

gan believed they had all bailed out.

As Lieutenant Morgan continued to fly the crippled B-17, the wounded pilot still offered desperate resistance in his crazed attempts to fly the airplane. There still remained the prospect of flying the B-17 to the target and back unassisted. In the face of this desperate situation, Lieutenant Morgan decided to continue the flight and protect any members of the crew who might still be in the aircraft. He flew in formation for two hours with one hand at the controls and the other holding off the struggling semiconscious pilot.

The miraculous and heroic actions of Lieutenant Morgan on this day resulted in the successful completion of a vital combat mission and the safe return of his airplane and crew. For this mission, Lieutenant Morgan was awarded one of our nation's most prestigious awards — the Congressional Medal of Honor.

As Barb and I listened to this and many more heroic stories, I was amazed at how proud they are of you, the current 509th members, in light of the sacrifices they made for us during World War II. But it's true: the "Spirit of the 92nd Bomb Group" is still quite alive in the 509th. Every day as you serve this great nation proudly, your patriotism, determination and courage are awe inspiring in the eyes of our nation's greatest heroes.



Courtesy photo

Ray Griffin, a 325th Bomb Squadron member during World War II, takes advantage of a photo opportunity with Lt. Col. Tom Bussiere, 325th BS commander. The Airmen met during the 92nd Bomb Group reunion.

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The deadline for article submissions to the *Whiteman Spirit* is noon Friday. If a holiday falls on Friday, the deadline then becomes 4 p.m. Thursday. Articles will be published on a space-available basis. Submission doesn't guarantee publication.

For more information, call the *Whiteman Spirit* office at 687-6133, fax us at 687-7948, e-mail: whiteman.spirit@whiteman.AF.mil or write to us at:

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Royal Air Force pilot trains in B-2, T-38

English officer becomes first foreign aviator to fly stealth bomber

By Senior Airman Joe Lacdan
Public Affairs

English pilot David Arthurton is going where no Royal Air Force pilot has gone before.

The RAF flight lieutenant (equivalent of a U.S. captain) is the first foreign aviator to train in the B-2 stealth bomber here.

"I'm looking forward to flying the B-2," said the 32-year old native of Norwich, England.

The Tornado fighter jet GR4 veteran

will call Whiteman home for the next three years. Flt. Lt. Arthurton has completed T-38 training and began B-2 training this week. Flt. Lt. Arthurton is assigned to the 394th Combat Training Squadron, although he will eventually move to the 325th Bomb Squadron. His first B-2 flight is tentatively scheduled for May. Flt. Lt. Arthurton arrived at Whiteman in October 2004.

"It's obviously a great honor being the first non-U.S.

citizen to be given the opportunity to join the B-2 community," he said. "I look forward to the challenge ahead."

RAF senior leaders selected Flt. Lt.



Arthurton

Arthurton as part of the U.S. Air Force and RAF exchange program.

Flt. Lt. Arthurton's tenure at Whiteman marks an exciting time for the B-2 program, said Lt. Col. Tom Bussiere, 325th BS commander.

"(His arrival) will build upon an already strong relationship we have with the United Kingdom," Colonel Bussiere said. "This cultural and professional exchange will pay big dividends in years to come."

Before starting his tour here, Flt. Lieutenant Arthurton was the Weapons Instructor on the XIII Squadron at RAF Marham, Eng-

land.

Flt. Lieutenant Arthurton flew 25 combat missions during Operation Iraqi Freedom. He has experienced training with the American military training in the T-37 and T-38 at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas.

"It's a very different job," Flt. Lt. Arthurton said. "In my old airplane (Tornado) we spent a lot of time at low level (using) laser-guided bombs, whereas the B-2 uses primarily GPS-guided munitions."

The newly-wed Arthurton said the Whiteman family has helped him and his new bride, Poppy, settle in.

"I think it's partly the advantage of a relatively small community," Lieutenant Arthurton said. "Everyone's been really helpful."



Photo by Staff Sgt. Francesca Popp

Tax center opens Jan. 31

Tech. Sgt. Theresa McDaniels, 509th Bomb Wing, sets up a computer at the community center in preparation for the opening of the Whiteman tax assistance office.

The office opens for business Jan. 31 at the community center. The hours are 8 a.m.-4 p.m. weekdays.

Taxpayers may contact the tax office at 687-6020 starting Jan. 25 to schedule an appointment for tax assistance. Electronic filing of tax returns begins Jan. 31.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance representatives are available to help taxpayers prepare 2004 tax returns. Volunteers are only trained to assist with 1040 E-Z, 1040A and other basic 1040 forms.

Besides VITA volunteers, most squadrons have one or more unit tax representatives available to help squadron members. Unit tax representative names will be available in the near future.

Tax forms are not available at the tax office. Forms and publications are available on the Web at <http://www.irs.gov>.

People who don't have access to the Internet can have their forms printed at the tax office. Additionally, taxpayers must provide copies of required documents to submit to the IRS because copies can't be made at the tax center. (Courtesy of the 509th Bomb Wing Legal Office)

Program links American public with troops

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — Department of Defense officials launched a nationwide program, America Supports You, and Web site to showcase the many activities taking place across the nation in support of the troops. The Web site, which highlights organizations and individuals coordinating local and national support efforts, has logged nearly a million hits since its inception Nov. 19.

Individual citizens, businesses, schools, veterans groups and others have visited <http://www.AmericaSupportsYou.mil> to register their activities, send a message to the troops and identify programs of support in their own communities.

Allison Barber, deputy assistant secretary of defense for internal communications and public liaison, said that while the DOD knew that many of these programs existed, the site has become a useful tool in "helping to link people and programs, and more importantly, to share these stories of support with the people who need to hear them most — the men and women serving overseas. The feedback from our troops has been tremendous, just as the outpouring of support from the American people has been overwhelming."

Americans can visit the site and register their activities, large or small, supporting the troops. Everyone who registers receives an official America Supports You dog tag that can be worn as a visible symbol of support for the troops.

The dog tags have been seen across the country, worn by celebrities like Ellen DeGeneres and Wayne Newton, and worn by everyday citizens at national events, such as the Macy's Day Thanksgiving Parade, the Fiesta and Rose Bowls and the New Year's Eve celebration in Times Square.

Ms. Barber also suggests that businesses, schools, churches, corporations and individuals add a link to the site from their Web sites.

"Servicemembers and their families have told us how much they are inspired by the messages of support from all across the nation that are posted each day. Whether you post a message on the site, or team up with a local group organizing care packages, each and every activity sends the message loud and clear: 'America Supports You,'" she said.

Suicide prevention program brings hope

By Staff Sgt. Todd Lopez
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — A new initiative by the Air Force chaplain's office aims to bring to Airmen something that cannot be issued — hope.

Air Force chaplain service officials kicked off a year-long and service-wide "Campaign of Hope" Jan. 3, said Chaplain (Col.) Bob Page, of the chaplain's office.

The campaign started with a day of prayer and fasting Chaplain Page said. The actual day varied from base to base. "We believe prayer has a lot to do with finding hope," he said.

"The Campaign of Hope is a positive-focused emphasis," said Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Ron Underwood, 509th Bomb Wing chaplain. "Though we want to help everyone understand that suicide is definitely not the answer in any situation, our emphasis is not upon suicide. Our emphasis is upon the fact that life is worth living, regardless what happens. There is always

an answer despite what problems one is confronted with."

Vietnam War veteran and motivational speaker Dave Roever visited Whiteman as part of his tour of Air Combat Command bases in December. After suffering grievous wounds in Vietnam, he shared how he had overcome his adversities and was now using his story from tragedy to triumph to encourage others.

The Chapel conducted two Applied Suicide Intervention Skills workshops during the fall to train key personnel in assisting troubled personnel and families. A third workshop is planned for Jan. 27-28.

The Whiteman chapel is currently establishing a toll-free help hotline where a person can contact a chaplain and receive immediate, confidential assistance. This hotline is scheduled to be operational by the end of the month, Chaplain Underwood said.

"The weekly spiritual programming of the Chapel, along with community churches, provides ongoing opportunities for

individuals and families to tap into the power of spiritual inspiration and faith." Chaplain Underwood said. "This inspiration and faith keeps us going when the times get hard."

The campaign came as a response to an increase in suicides among junior enlisted Airmen.

"There has been a tragic rise in the suicide rate, particularly among (airmen first class and senior airmen)," Chaplain Page said. "Not only with (them), but across the board there has been a rise in suicide rates, and we are deeply concerned about that. For every person who feels hopeless and in despair to the point of taking his or her life, it is a great tragedy and a loss to all of us."

"There are many pressures on our Airmen and their families, especially with deployments," he said. "Building and maintaining good relationships is difficult. One of the things about our Airmen is that they value relationships so much — family

See PREVENTION, Page 5

DOD implements new sexual-assault prevention policy

By Donna Miles
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — Defense Department officials here Jan. 4 announced sweeping changes in how the military handles sexual assaults, with uniform policies and procedures that apply to all servicemembers, wherever they are.

Dr. David S.C. Chu, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, said the changes, laid out in 11 new memorandums sent to Congress and the military services, “will change the way the military handles sexual assault, from the operations arena all the way to culture of the institution, in a profound and lasting way.”

The new DOD policy focuses on three major areas: enhanced education and training to help prevent assaults, improved treatment and support for victims, and a better system for investigating and prosecuting offenders.

Dr. Chu said the changes are designed to help build a “climate of confidence” that instills trust in victims that they will get the care they need, while instilling in all servicemembers that “this crime will not be tolerated.”

The goal of the new policies is to standardize programs and policies throughout the DOD to improve prevention of sexual assault, enhance victim support and increase accountability, officials said.

Dr. Chu acknowledged that the military's traditional

victim-response system did not provide the level of care and support that victims need.

“We are moving aggressively to put new systems in place to address this shortcoming,” he said. “The well-being of victims is a priority for us, and we are doing whatever it will take to ensure they get the best possible care.”

This support begins with a better system for reporting and investigating sexual assaults that is more sensitive to victims’ privacy and confidentiality, Dr. Chu said. Final details of that effort are still being worked out but are expected to be resolved soon, possibly within the week, he said.

DOD's sexual-assault policy will also ensure uniform standards of care, a “so no matter where you are or what branch you serve in, you will have the same support systems and the same response personnel available to you,” he said. New reporting guidelines and protocols will ensure an appropriate and timely response that Dr. Chu said will treat victims with “the dignity and respect they deserve.”

He stressed this will apply to forces wherever they might be deployed on the globe.

“All of these services should be available to everyone, everywhere,” he said.

Ensuring that victims get this care will be the job of the newly established sexual-assault response coordinators. Dr.

Chu said these officials will serve as a single point of contact to coordinate sexual-assault victim care. Once the concept is fully implemented, the coordinators will be at every military installation around the world, he said.

The new policy calls for consistent sexual assault prevention education and training that begins in basic training and continues throughout the servicemembers’ military careers.

The most basic part of the training includes clear-cut definitions of what constitutes sexual harassment, sexual assault and other sexual-related offenses. Dr. Chu said this will help “eliminate confusion and uncertainty about which actions constitute which offense.”

Other training will be geared to first responders and commanders on dealing with cases of sexual assault within their ranks.

Brig. Gen. K.C. McClain, commander of Joint Task Force Sexual Assault Prevention and Response, said the new sexual-assault policy “will make a tremendous difference in the lives of the men and women in our services.”

Despite what she called “huge strides,” she acknowledged that the new policy is not an “overnight solution.” Implementing the new policy in an effective way “will take time,” she said.

The joint task force will provide oversight as the services implement the new policy over the next year to ensure programs are consistent, General McClain said.

Standardized course changes enhance enlisted AF professionals

By Tech. Sgt. David Jablonski
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Air Force officials recently standardized enlisted professional enhancement courses and changed the supervisory structure for career assistance advisers and First-Term Airman’s Center course managers.

These changes enhance enlisted professionals by linking formal training, education and on-the-job training to develop Airmen’s technical skills and leadership abilities, officials said.

“We have tremendous talent within our ranks and we owe (Airmen) the opportunity to develop their abilities and recognize their potential,” Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Gerald Murray said.

More than two years ago, Chief Murray and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper created a developmental road map to grow capable leaders through exposure to the right training, education and experi-

ence. This led to the implementation of the Enlisted Professional Enhancement Program, officials said.

To foster that development, the career assistance adviser now has functional oversight of enhancement courses and the center. The adviser will be assigned directly under the mission support squadron commander and the NCO in charge of the center reports to the adviser. Both will be hired locally. The adviser will be a master or senior master sergeant serving for two years. The center supervisor will be a staff or technical sergeant serving for one year.

The career assistance adviser structure provides standardization for enlisted force development programs, said Senior Master Sgt. Maria Cornelia, superintendent of the career management branch.

“The original intent of the career assistance advisers was to serve as retention warriors for the wing. However, (their role) has evolved, and we are calling on them to assist with force-development and force-

shaping initiatives.”

Before standardization, base commanders created a variety of education programs to augment professional military education.

“While some of these programs were excellent, they lacked consistency from base to base,” Chief Murray said. “With this initiative, we’ll have a solid curriculum to provide Airmen at every base the same foundation while still allowing flexibility to adapt to meet local needs.”

There are now four standardized courses:

✓ Senior NCO professional enhancement is designed for Airmen selected for master sergeant. This mandatory course must be at least three to five days long.

✓ NCO professional enhancement targets NCOs who have not attended formal professional military education within the past three years. Half of each base’s NCOs who meet the criteria must attend the course. Course length is also three to five days.

✓ FTAC is designed for Airman assigned to their first duty station. It lasts 10 to 15 duty days. All newly assigned Airmen must attend.

✓ The Right Decision Seminar targets first- and second-term Airmen, regardless of rank, who are 12 to 15 months away from their date of separation. Attendance for first-term Airmen is mandatory.

Commanders can tailor the courses, Sergeant Cornelia said.

“There is a core curriculum that must be taught along with some suggested material,” she said. “But there’s flexibility for commanders to add courses to meet local needs or requirements, as long as it all fits into the time limit.”

Air Force officials will complete the new instruction, AFI 36-2624, the Career Assistance Adviser and Enlisted Professional Enhancement Programs, before setting an implementation date for the new courses.

This space is reserved for advertisements



Photo by Staff Sgt. Francesca Popp

SAV-vy

Vincent Dotson, 8th Air Force safety manager, reviews 509th Civil Engineer Squadron safety records with Tim Alm, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron confined space program trainer. The 8th Air Force Safety staff conducted a safety assistance visit of the 509th Bomb Wing Safety division Tuesday through Thursday. The SAV team was led by Col. Kevin Smith, 8th Air Force chief of safety. During the SAV, the five member team met with wing leadership, and visited numerous facilities and work areas. The purpose of the visit was to assist the 509th BW in its mishap prevention and safety programs management efforts.

W-2s confirm tax credit eligibility

ARLINGTON, Va. (AFPN) — The 2004 W-2 tax forms for servicemembers will now report pay earned while serving in a combat zone tax exclusion area. This information helps them determine their eligibility for the earned income tax credit and child tax credit.

The combat pay information will be listed separately in Block 14 of the W-2 and will not be included with taxable wage information in Block 1.

Tax credit qualifications are based on gross income, which includes pay earned while in a combat zone. The addition of this information on 2004 W-2s will aid in determining whether a servicemember meets the Internal Revenue Service requirements for tax credit and which method of computing taxes is most advantageous to each situation.

The 2004 W-2s will be available mid- to late-January. Visit myPay online at <https://mypay.dfas.mil/mypay.aspx> to check availability.

For more information on these or other tax issues, people can contact their unit tax adviser or finance office.

Information is also available in the Armed Forces Tax Guide 2004 online at <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p3.pdf> and on the IRS Web site at www.irs.gov.

PREVENTION, continued from Page 3

and close friends. What happens when a relationship seems to be breaking apart, when there seems to be no hope for that relationship? Does that mean there is no hope at all?"

Air Force chaplains, he said, want to help answer those questions for Airmen struggling with them.

"We want to be a counterbalance to what some are experiencing as hopelessness," Chaplain Page said. "We are asking how we can focus some significant, caring ministry on that group."

Part of that ministry involves sponsorship of what Chaplain Page calls "hope tours."

As part of the campaign, chaplain service officials will be asking chaplains in the field what is working best for them as they minister to Airmen.

"We are initiating something called the Chief of Chaplains Grant Program," Chaplain Page said. "We are calling on wing chapel teams to look at the needs on their base, particularly among (young Airmen) and ask where can (the teams) serve them and bring hope into their lives. We will fund the best of those proposals and share their ideas across the Air Force."

(Senior Airman Joe Lacdan, 509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs, contributed to this story.)

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Tops in Blue takes stage in February

Tops in Blue, the premiere entertainment showcase of the U.S. Air Force will perform free at 7 p.m. Feb. 4 at the Mathewson Exhibition Center on the Missouri State Fairgrounds in Sedalia.

The 2004-2005 edition of Tops in Blue titled “Musicology” is an intricate mixture of the musical sounds of America. Through the creative use of today’s technology, Tops in Blue will present a fun-filled, action-packed performance showcasing hits with their own special spin. The Tops in Blue team entertains world-wide audiences with music and fun for the entire family.

In this year’s show, Tops in Blue creates its own musical formula. Members take the swing of “The Brian Setzer Orchestra” and the groove of “Peaches & Herb” the harmonies of the “Tavares” and energy of “Madonna,” adding the country of “Martina McBride,” the emotion of “Whitney,” and a pinch of “Hammer-time,” shake well, then pour it

into a stage setting of incredible lighting and choreography.

After celebrating 50 years in 2003, Tops in Blue keeps up its whirlwind tour schedule by visiting all the bases throughout the United States and more than 23 foreign countries. The tour schedule spans more than 130 locations and more than 150 shows, and includes entertaining forward-deployed troops in various locations in Iraq, Qatar, Afghanistan and Kuwait.

The Tops in Blue tour is sponsored by Coca-Cola and AT&T. This is Coca-Cola’s first year of financial support while AT&T has sponsored the Tops in Blue program for 13 consecutive years. As a bonus, one lucky fan at each performance will win a 1,000-minute AT&T calling card.

For more show information, call the community center at 687-5617 or visit <http://www.topsinblue.com>.



Have a story idea?

Let us know,
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or e-mail
whiteman.spirit@whiteman.af.mil

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Whiteman Spirit Award



Tech. Sgt. Karen Simpson

509th Maintenance Operations Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Karen Simpson, 509th Maintenance Operations Squadron, received the Whiteman Spirit Award from Col. Matthew Erichsen, 509th Bomb Wing vice commander, Monday.

Senior Master Sgt. Jim Williamson, 509th MOS, nominated Sergeant Simpson for the award.

Sergeant Simpson organized a gift donation for a needy family in Warrensburg. She placed a tree in the 509th MOS orderly room with ornaments requesting gifts for the large family. Squadron members also donated a Christmas tree to the family.

"Because of Sergeant Simpson's above-and-beyond efforts, this family truly had a Christmas to remember," Sergeant Williamson said.

Personally Speaking

Time on station: 4 years, 6 months

Time in service: 14 years, 8 months

Hometown: Waukesha, Wis.

Children: Alyssa, 12, Amanda, 10, and Alex, 6.

Hobbies: Running, cooking, shopping and family outings.

Goals: To retire in five years with at least one master's degree.

Best thing about Whiteman: It's a great place to raise a family.

Pet Peeves: People who lack integrity. People who don't get involved in helping others when they have the power to do so.

What motivates your winning spirit? My attitude and my desire to be successful at everything I do.

If you could change one thing about Whiteman, what would it be? Location. We need more options for off-duty entertainment.

Submitting a Whiteman Spirit Award

Individuals are nominated from within their units or by customers impressed by the individual making Whiteman a better place to live and work by going far beyond his or her assigned duties to "make it happen."

If you know someone who has the Whiteman Spirit, send the nomination to the 509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 509, Suite 111, or e-mail whiteman.spirit@whiteman.af.mil.

The Whiteman Spirit wants to feature you.

Do you, or does someone you know, have a story idea you'd like to see in the paper? Let our staff know about it. For more information, call 687-6133 or e-mail whiteman.spirit@whiteman.af.mil.

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B-2 pilot broadens career in China

By Melissa Klinkner

Public Affairs

Almost four years ago, one of Whiteman's members applied for a scholarship presented only to a limited number of Air Force officers per year. The winner of this prestigious educational award would be given the opportunity to live and study in a nation of his choice for two years.

The Whiteman member — Maj. Rob Spalding, 393rd Bomb Squadron assistant director of operations — achieved this opportunity through the competitive Olmsted scholarship. He returned here in May 2004 after spending two years in Shanghai, China, studying economics and writing his doctoral dissertation.

The Olmsted program was started by Army Gen. George Olmsted, upon his return from World War II, under the conviction that leaders should be educated broadly.

"Not only did this opportunity provide me with new knowledge that applies directly to my job as an operations officer, it provided me an incredible educational and cultural experience with my family that would never have been feasible otherwise," Major Spalding said.

The B-2 pilot first learned of the scholarship through a former co-worker and, in 2000, made the decision to apply, never believing he had a chance of being selected.

"The application process consists of various tests including a language aptitude test, getting certain scores, having a certain grade point average as an undergraduate and having a good service record," he said. "All those criteria put together tend to be daunting and make people think the goal is unattainable, but I'm living proof that it is."

Lt. Col. Jeff Long, 393rd BS director of operations, said he felt Major Spalding was suited for such an endeavor because, "He's a brilliant man, capable of handling the new language. Generally, persons selected for these types of fellowships are people who've demonstrated the intelligence and demeanor for higher learning and diplomatic communications skills."

Maj. Todd Berge, 509th Operations Group, agreed.

"Major Spalding isn't someone to be intimidated by the challenges a new language and culture were sure to produce," Major Berge said.

However, Major Spalding said the decision to apply for the scholarship program was more difficult than choosing his country of residence. "I was thinking of my family when I made the decision to go to China. It was probably the safest country that I could think of because of the stable government and the lack of internal conflict in the country. I also knew China was going to play a big part in our strategy for the future," he said.

To prepare for his trip to China, Major Spalding attended the Defense Language Institute for an intensive study of the Chinese language where he became fluent in reading and listening. After one year of learning the Chinese vocabulary, Major Spalding and his family made the move to Shanghai.

To minimize discomfort for his family, they moved into a neighborhood of expatriates — non-Chinese people living and working in China — and began to adapt to the new culture and language. Incidentally, adapting to these two things ended up being two of the most difficult challenges the Spaldings encountered during the entire process.

"Adjusting to the food was easier said than done," he said with a smile. "The Chinese have huge supermarkets filled with items you don't recognize or know what to do with. Our strategy for getting the kids to eat was shipping over a lot of ranch dress-



Courtesy photo

Maj. Rob Spalding and his sons, Matthew and Zane, stopped in Tianamen Square while learning more about Chinese culture.

ing. You can put ranch dressing on anything and eat it."

Besides the food, other cultural adjustments included being constantly surrounded and watched by the Chinese people. "In smaller Chinese cities, the people are fascinated by foreigners. They were always smiling and friendly, and wanted to talk to us, trying any English words they might know," Major Spalding said. "We learned what it might feel like to be a movie or rock star and never have any privacy. Even when we were eating by a window in a restaurant, the Chinese would begin to crowd outside the window to look at us."

The almost 13-year Air Force veteran said he never really 'got used' to China. He learned how difficult it would be for a person to go to another country; leaving behind what they know and trying to assimilate there.

"I realized what a great country we have — the best country in the world — and how blessed we are," he said. "The only thing I have is luck to have been born in America; I could've just as easily been born a Chinese person and had tremendous struggles."

Major Spalding said the average Chinese person in Shanghai doesn't own a refrigerator, TV or car, and usually lives in an apartment with only cement for walls, ceilings and floor. They might have a plastic table, plastic chair and pillows to sleep on, but still have essentially no material items. "They have a lot of social issues there that we (Americans) have already worked through and solved," he said.

Major Spalding learned about Chinese priorities, vulnerabilities and strengths while he lived there. He said the Olmsted vision was fulfilled through the experience and knowledge he gained. "My knowledge of China will apply directly to the mission here," he said.

Co-workers and superiors agree that the experience only strengthened Major Spalding's already vast knowledge and said that, despite his intelligence, he's willing to listen and be mentored. Words they used to describe him included driven, motivated and dedicated.

"He's an optimal blend of common sense, intelligence and fun-loving," said Lt. Col. Greg Smith, 509th Operations Support Squadron.

Major Spalding's trip to China was a mind-broadening experience.

"It helps him bring a fresher and different perspective (to the mission). Not only can he think quickly and easily, he could think as an economist and a statistician with the Chinese on tougher subjects," Colonel Smith said. "It was a fairly easy transition (to China) for him compared to most."

Since returning from China, Major Spalding continues striving after his goals of doing his best, becoming a squadron commander and continuing to develop to his full potential. "I gained so much from living in China and, no matter where the Air Force takes me, I'll never complain because of the phenomenal opportunity they provided me with."



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Joan Anderson-Brown

Airman 1st Class Maurice Lloyd (left), 319th Civil Engineer Squadron, gets help from Staff Sgt. Michael Oesterle (center), 319th Maintenance Squadron, Grand Forks Air Force Base, N.D., to pull his weapon off the carousel at Kansas City International Airport Jan. 2. The aggregation is an experimental phase set up by U.S. Central Command Air Forces to establish a centralized location to ease the choke points caused at eastern U.S. hub airports and get better real-time data of the location of deployers at any given time to better plan for intra-theater airlift.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Tia Schroeder

Staff Sgt. Patrick Odom, 509th Security Forces Squadron, uses a trans-wand to frisk Senior Airman Robert Frost, 319th Operations Support Squadron from Grand Forks Air Force Base, N.D., during the aggregation phase here Jan. 4. The aggregation is intended to lower deployment costs, and provide better support for Airmen during Air Expeditionary Forces 3 and 4.

AGGREGATION, continued from Page 1

11 a.m. They didn't have to report to the deployment center for the final time until 7 p.m. So Chaplain Franke said he spent some time with his parents, who drove to Whiteman to see him off.

When Chaplain Franke asked the bus driver taking his group to lodging if the base does aggregation deployments often, the answer wasn't what he expected.

"We were very pleasantly surprised to find that we were the first ones going through the process," he said. "Everything was going so smooth. We thought Whiteman had been doing this for years."

That is exactly what Captain Austin wanted to hear. "We worked hard to make the transition through here as painless as possible," he said.

Everything was going according to plan until the Jan. 4 ice storm and unscheduled deploying members arrived here. "They created obstacles that had to be overcome," Captain Austin said.

The storm caused KCI to cancel a number of flights and delay others. "This caused us to make several unscheduled bus runs and hold several buses in-place at the airport for many hours," he said.

The weather almost canceled the flight out of

Whiteman, but with the freezing line holding 15 miles west of base, the commercial aircraft was able to land and leave on time.

Fifteen deploying Airmen reported to Whiteman who weren't scheduled to meet here for their deployments. This increased the workload, but Captain Austin's team was able to get them processed and deployed with the rest of the groups.

Overall, the coordination between the bases involved and Whiteman went well, Captain Austin said.

"Everyone understood the importance of succeeding and pitched in, sometimes with long hours, to get folks out on time," he said.

One example of pitching in involved the traffic management office. Staff Sgts. Lisa Wilkins and Daisy Ersham, and Airman 1st Class Willie Williams, 509th LRS, each worked many 14-hour days typing passenger information into the cargo manifesting operating system. This had to be done before each passenger was allowed to board the commercial airliners and leave Whiteman.

First Lt. Russell Rumley, 509th LRS vehicle operations officer, worked with Captain Austin's team to coordinate times and transportation support

for everything from picking up passengers at KCI to getting a bus route set up to take deploying members around base.

Tech. Sgt. James Presley, 509th Services Squadron, coordinated lodging, and some base dining and entertainment. For Sergeant Presley, the time of year was critical.

"If this had happened in June or during the (Missouri) State Fair, off-base lodging would have been nearly impossible to get," he said.

Every base was responsible for sending each member's itinerary so Sergeant Presley could get lodging. "Communications from other bases and here ran very smoothly," he said.

Sergeant Presley said approximately 70 percent of the deploying Airmen were lodged on base.

When asked how he would determine if the process went well, Captain Austin said it would depend on many factors. Ensuring the deploying members left Whiteman on time was one. Also, the process needed to save the Air Force money, and reduce stress on the deploying Airmen and civilian hubs.

All flights left Whiteman on time, but it will be months before the final results of this process are known and analyzed.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Lauren Padden

Airman 1st Class Willie Williams, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron, weighs Senior Master Sgt. Luke Brito, 55th Mission Support Squadron from Offutt Air Force Base, Neb., at the manifest desk during the aggregation phase Jan. 4.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Joan Anderson-Brown

Airman 1st Class Buck Beamon, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron, briefs Airman 1st Class Link Collier, 319th Operations Support Squadron, Grand Forks Air Force Base, N.D., on the mobility center numbers during the aggregation phase Jan. 2



Photo by Airman 1st Class Lauren Padden

Deployers from F. E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyo., play cards to pass the time while waiting for transportation at the deployment center. Airmen also had the opportunity to watch TV and eat at the deployment center before boarding planes to go to undisclosed locations in Southwest Asia.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Tia Schroeder

Air Force members from throughout the continental United States temporarily disembark from the aircraft while the Boeing 727 refuels here Jan. 3.

What’s happening

Education

For more details, visit the education center Web site at <https://wwwmil.whiteman.af.mil/509mss/educ/home-page.htm>

Apply online for tuition assistance

The Air Force Virtual Education Center expands its service to include online tuition assistance requests. Air Force members at Whiteman preparing to register for college courses requesting tuition assistance are encouraged to apply online using AFVEC. Air Force members can request tuition assistance through AFVEC at <https://afvec.langley.af.mil>. For more details, call Larry Broudrick at base training and educations services at 687-5750.

Community

Top 3 meets Thursday

The Whiteman Top 3 meets at 3 p.m. Thursday at Mission’s End. For more details, call Senior Master Sgt. Ray Guest, vice president, at 687-3079.

Prayer breakfast scheduled

Whiteman’s National Prayer Breakfast begins at 7 a.m. Jan. 26 at Mission’s End. Chaplain (Maj. Gen.) Charles Baldwin, Air Force chief of chaplains, is the speaker. A choral group from Knob Noster High School will provide music. A full breakfast buffet will be served. Tickets cost \$5 and can be purchased from a first sergeant or at the chapel. Some free tickets are available to staff sergeants and below through the office of each first sergeant. For more details, call the chapel staff at 687-3652.

Awards breakfast set

A quarterly awards breakfast begins at 8 a.m. Jan. 27 at Mission’s End. The menu is scrambled eggs, sausage, biscuit, hash browns, coffee, water and juice. The cost is \$7.80 for members and \$9.80 for nonmembers.

WOSC meets Jan. 27

The Whiteman Officers’ Spouses’ Club meets at 6:30 p.m. Jan. 27 at Mission’s End. Amy Hays, a professional organizer, will be at the meeting. Ms. Hays will offer tips on getting and staying organized, managing schedules and de-cluttering. For a reservation, call Michelle Hunt at 563-4858 or e-mail her at kevinandmichelle@charter.net by noon Thursday.

Honor guard member needed

The 509th Bomb Wing needs a volunteer to fill the base honor guard NCO in charge position. Applicants must be a staff or technical sergeant, although staff sergeant selects may apply. This one year position can be filled by NCOs in any Air Force speciality. Volunteers will need approval from their unit commanders. The selection process will consist of a records review and interview session. To volunteer, or for more details, call Master Sgt. Hugh Palmer at 687-6561 to schedule an interview.

HAWC challenges Team Whiteman

The “Whiteman’s Biggest Loser” initial weigh-ins are currently under way at the health and wellness center. The program offers weekly challenges issued during weigh-ins and monthly weigh-ins to measure percent body weight lost. Points will be awarded for challenges and percentage lost. Call 687-7662 for more details.

Volunteers needed at two places

The Airman’s Attic and the 509th Medical Group Pharmacy need volunteers. To volunteer at either location, call Bob Berger at the family support center at 687-7132. There is paid child care assistance for people who volunteer on base.

Menus

Knob Noster Elementary School

Monday: NO SCHOOL
Tuesday: Rib sandwich, carrot sticks, pears and apple cobbler
Wednesday: Fried chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, orange and rolls
Thursday: Hamburger, french fries, apple and cake
Friday: Spaghetti, broccoli, banana and cookie

Whiteman Elementary School

Monday: NO SCHOOL
Tuesday: Corn dog nuggets, macaroni and cheese, fruit and roll
Wednesday: Pork steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, peas and carrots, fruit and rolls
Thursday: Quesadilla, spinach, salad and fruit
Friday: Chili crispito, salad, hash brown potatoes and cookie

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New law prohibits ‘Andro’ supplement

By Staff Sgt. Todd Lopez

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Airmen who take androstenedione to increase muscle mass will soon have to ditch the supplement and just do extra repetitions at the gym.

Under a new law that takes effect Thursday, the prohormone androstenedione will be classified as a Schedule III controlled substance. Schedule III substances are those defined by the government as having a potential for abuse. The drug, commonly called “andro,” is used by bodybuilders to help build mass, said Col. (Dr.) Vincent Carr, the Air Force’s chief consultant for internal medicine services.

“Andro includes a number of compounds which altogether are a precursor to the male hormone testosterone,” Dr. Carr said. “Folks take this to bulk up their muscles and increase their ability to weight lift and to gain endurance for their exercise programs.”

Other drugs listed as Schedule III substances include the anesthetic ketamine, called “Special K” by the clubgoers who use it; testosterone, and forms of codeine and morphine.

Once ingested, Dr. Carr said, androstenedione is converted to testosterone. Testosterone is responsible for developing such male characteristics as muscle size and body hair. For androstenedione to create muscle mass, a user must take it in an amount that also causes side effects that are damaging to his or her health.

“Part of the problem is that if you take large amounts of androstenedione over a long period of time, you have the potential to develop liver disease, liver failure, heart disease, kidney disease and an acceleration of hardening of the arteries,” Dr. Carr said. “For ladies, it may block some of the female hormones, so they may experience symptoms such as male-pattern baldness.”

Because androstenedione creates artificial levels of testosterone in the body, natural production of the hormone can be reduced. Slowing the normal production of testosterone also affects a user's body.

“A male may find that because he doesn’t have normal



Photo by Senior Airman Joe Lacdan

Ryan Baker, 509th Mission Support Squadron, works out his biceps at the fitness center.

testosterone production, his testicles get smaller,” Dr. Carr said.

Use of androstenedione is also known to reduce sperm count in men and to reduce breast size in women. The drug may also have psychological effects.

“One of the biggest problems that gets users into trouble is that aggressive behavior manifests itself,” Dr. Carr said. “They get into fights, and that could have a major effect on the work environment.”

Androstenedione is found in many bodybuilding supplements that are available in nutrition and fitness stores. But Lt. Col. Ronald Blakely, the staff food and drug safety officer for the Army and Air Force Exchange Service,

said the products are no longer available in AAFES stores.

“Due to health concerns, the four dietary supplements that contained androstenedione were phased out by December 2002,” Colonel Blakely said. “AAFES’ direct store operations never offered nor-androstenedione supplements, also known as ‘nor-andro’ supplements.”

Colonel Blakely also said that General Nutrition Center concessions no longer sell andro or nor-andro products.

On Thursday, androstenedione may no longer be legally purchased by Air Force members. It will also be illegal to use the prohormone, even if it was purchased before then. Use, possession or distribution of

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Services Page editor.....Jamie Jennings
509th Services Squadron.....687-6525
*No federal endorsement of mentioned sponsors intended.

Food & Fun

Ozark Inn
687-5476

Martin Luther King Jr. Day Meal

The Ozark Inn is open 7 a.m.- 12:30 p.m.; 6-8 p.m. and 11 p.m.-12:30 a.m. Monday. The menu includes: assorted yogurt, chicken noodle soup, southern fried catfish, barbecue spare ribs, Southern fried chicken, baked ham, steamed rice, baked macaroni and cheese, fried okra, mustard greens, black eyed peas, macaroni salad, potato salad, cole slaw, cornbread, dinner rolls, apple cobbler, pecan pie, German chocolate cake and assorted beverages.

Mission’s End
687-4422

Membership Night

Members can take advantage of the week’s \$1 special 5-7 p.m.. today. Tonight's special is mariner’s catch.

Sunday afternoon brunch

Brunch will be offered noon-2 p.m. on Jan. 23. The menu includes: meat loaf, grilled chicken, rice mashed potatoes, vegetables, scrambled eggs, sausage, hash browns, biscuits and gravy, salad, fruit, desserts and drinks. Brunch is offered for \$10 for people ages 13 and older, \$8 for ages 6-12 and \$2 for ages 5 and younger. Club members and their families receive \$2 off.

ACC \$1 Lunch

The Air Combat Command \$1 lunch takes place 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Jan. 25. The menu includes: salad, roast beef, chicken, mashed potatoes, red beans and rice, vegetables, dessert and drink.

Stars & Strikes
687-5114

Visit the bowling center

The center features 16 lanes with automatic scoring and a variety of leagues and tournaments throughout the year. Opening bowling, bumper bowling and cosmic bowling are also available. The bowling center hosts birthday parties and squadron functions. The pro shop carries bowling supplies and can order any supply item to meet a bowler’s needs. Custom ball drilling, ball plugging and re-drilling are also offered. Stop by to welcome the new manager, Maureen Niska.

ACC Bowl by Mail

Youth 5:30-8 p.m. Teens 8-10 p.m. Youth will meet youth center staff tonight at Stars & Strikes for an evening of bowling fun. Participants are required to bowl three games each and will be divided into these divisions: Ages 5-8, 9-11, 12-14 and 15-18. Sign up today. Call 687-5586 for more details.

Outdoor Recreation
687-5565

Overtime rock climbing

Open climbing is available tonight from 5:30-9 p.m. today for certified climbers. A certification class takes place 6-8 p.m. The course for new climbers will show basic rock climbing skills, encourage teamwork and use of equipment.

Military appreciation days

Snow Creek Resort in Weston, Mo., offers Military Appreciation Days Wednesdays through Feb. 23. A shuttle to the resort leaves outdoor recreation at 10:15 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 2 and 16. Transportation costs \$5 per person or \$15 for a family of four. Active-duty military members get a free ski and lift pass; dependents or any other military classification with a valid ID get discounted rates. Bring snacks and lunch, or money to buy from the snack shop. The bus will leave the resort by 7:45 p.m. and return to base by 10 p.m. Call for more details.

Sports & Recreation

Ice skating trip
Take a trip to the ice sports arena in Shawnee, Kan. Participants will meet at 10 a.m. Jan 22 at outdoor recreation and return at 3:30 p.m. Cost is \$10 per person and includes transportation. Bring money for lunch and snacks. Sign up by Jan. 20.

Family adventure weekend

Families can take a trip to Duluth, Minn. for a downhill ski adventure weekend. The group leaves base at 7 a.m. Feb. 4 and return at approximately 8 p.m. Feb. 6. The \$75 fee per person includes transportation, lodging, 11 hours of lift/ski rental and two continental breakfasts at the hotel. Sign up by Feb. 1.

Fitness Center
687-5573

Quarterly Incentive Program

The Holiday Rebound Challenge takes place until March 31. January: Cross-Trainer/Aerobic Bikes/Aerobic Classes February: Treadmill/SPINNING Class/HAWC Class March: Treadmill/Cross-Trainer/Aerobic Bikes

Whiteman Theater Movie Schedule

Today Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason Starring — Renée Zellweger & Colin Firth	R	Sunday Ocean’s Twelve Starring — George Clooney & Brad Pitt	PG-13
Saturday Blade Trinity Starring — Wesley Snipes & Kris Kristofferson	R	Adults: \$3.50 Children: \$1.75 Movie Recording Line: 687-5110	

Community Activities

Luck of the draw cartooning for all

Learn the art of cartoon drawing in a beginner’s class taught by artist Latisha Banks. The class takes place 3-4 p.m. Jan. 22. Each participant should bring a sketch pad, No. 2 pencils (colored pencils optional). A movie will be shown after the class.

Veterinary Clinic
687-2667

Bring in the New Year with healthy pets

All pets that live on base must be registered at the veterinary clinic. To register your pet, visit the vet clinic at 401 Lockbourn Terrace between 9 a.m-3:30 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays or 8:30-2:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. People must bring this information: your pet’s most current vaccination records and rabies certificate.

Family Child Care
687-1180

Extended duty care

Register now for the extended duty care program. It is available to help parents meet child care requirements for extra duty hours and child care emergencies. Care is provided in a contracted, licensed family child care home to augment regular care arrangements. An application must be completed before participating. Call for more details

Youth Center
687-5586

K-4 Boogie nights

Youths can dance the night away 6:30-9:30 p.m. Jan. 21 to various types of music including disco, line dancing, break dancing and sock hop. The cost is \$6 for members and \$7.50 for nonmembers.

Pre-Teen wild & wacky talent night

Youths can join friends on Jan. 22 from 6-9 p.m. for a talent contest that will find who can make the most irritating noise, silliest face, wildest dancer, fastest cotton ball blower and contests so gross that you’ll have to be there to see it. The cost is \$2 for members and \$3 for nonmembers.

Start Smart Registration

Youths 3- to 5-years-old can work with a parent to gain skills to prepare them for participation in organized recreational sports. Sign ups are from Saturday-Jan. 30. The program takes place 1-2 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning Feb. 1.

Teen Center
687-5819

Congressional award meeting

A congressional award meeting takes place 6-8 p.m. Wednesday. participants will learn about the award program for young adults ages 14-23. Set personal goals and log hours toward this prestigious award.

Petra rock climbing/Lambert’s trip

Teens can travel to Springfield, Mo., for an day of indoor rockclimbing with more than 30 surfaces to climb. All equipment is provided. After climbing, the group will visit Lambert’s restaurant for dinner. The \$20 fee includes rock climbing, dinner and transportation. Sign up by Jan. 19.

Teen Aviation Camp

The Teen Aviation Camp takes place June 4-9. Teens who are interested in attending can get an application at the teen center today. Sign up by Feb. 1.

Skills Development Center
687-5691

Framing class

Learn to frame an entire project and earn certification to cut mats. Participants must bring a 5x7 (or smaller) photo. Class time is 6-9 p.m. Thursday at the skills development center. The \$40 fee includes supplies. Call for more details.

Scat (sand) blasting class

Take a certification class 4-6 p.m. Wednesday to learn scat blasting at the auto skills center. Call for more details or stop by to sign up by Wednesday.

Library
687-5614

Story time for children

Story time for 3- to 5-year-olds begins at 10 a.m. Wednesdays. New stories are presented weekly along with a craft. Pre-schoolers can call Dial-A Story at 687-6255.

Community Center
687-5617

Snowman Extravaganza

Kindergartners through fifth graders can participate in the snowman extravaganza 3-5:30 p.m. Saturday. The children’s programmer offers age-appropriate crafts, cookie decorating, snowman stories and movies. Children should be accompanied by an adult. Hot cocoa and cookies will be served.

Valentine’s to go

Now through Jan. 24 people can prepare Valentine’s Day cards for Airmen. Cards must be submitted to the community center by Jan. 24 to reach the Airmen in time for Valentine’s Day.